

Application No.: 09/899686

Case No.: 56345US002

In the Claims

Please amend claims 23, 80-81 and add claims 84-86 as follows

1-22 (canceled)

23. (currently amended) An article comprising a flexible film substrate and a printable polymeric layer; wherein said polymeric layer is soluble in at least one solvent comprising methyl ethyl ketone, methyl isobutyl ketone, cyclohexanone, propylene glycol methyl ether acetate, ethyl acetate, propylene glycol methyl ether and mixtures thereof; and wherein said polymeric layer is flexible and stain resistant.

24. (original) The article of claim 23 wherein the printable polymeric layer is insoluble in at least one solvent comprising ethanol, isopropanol, toluene, xylene, kerosene, gasoline, mineral spirits and mixtures thereof.

25. (original) The article of claim 23 wherein said layer exhibits enhanced surface slip.

26. (original) The article of claim 23 wherein said layer is transparent.

27. (original) The article of claim 23 wherein said layer ranges in thickness from about 5 microns to about 125 microns.

28-31 (canceled)

32. (original) The article of claim 23 further comprising a substrate.

37. (original) The article of claim 32 further comprising at least one bonding layer disposed between said printable layer and the substrate.

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38-41 (canceled)

42. (original) The article of claim 37 wherein the bonding layer comprises at least one colorant.

43-46 (canceled)

47. (original) The article of claim 23 further comprising a color layer.

48-51 (canceled)

52. (original) The article of claim 23 wherein said layer is disposed on retroreflective sheeting.

53-65 (canceled)

66. (previously added) The article of claim 23 wherein the printable polymeric layer comprises the reaction product of:

- a hard polymeric component having an elongation up to about 150%;
- a soft component having an elongation ranging from about 200% to about 800% after cross-linking; and
- a cross-linking agent.

67. (previously added) The article of claim 66 wherein the Shore Hardness of the hard component is at least about 40D.

68. (previously added) The article of claim 66 wherein the Shore Hardness of the hard component is at least about 70D.

(previously added) The article of claim 66 wherein the hard component has a Shore Hardness and comprises a polymeric component selected from the group consisting of a first polyurethane polymer, an acrylic polymer, a polymeric polyol and mixtures thereof.

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70. (previously added) The article of claim 66 wherein the soft component has functionality and comprises a polymeric component selected from the group consisting of a second polyurethane polymer, a polymeric polyol, and mixtures thereof.

71. (previously added) The article of claim 66 wherein the hard component comprises polyester polyol.

72. (previously added) The article of claim 66 wherein the soft component comprises a polyurethane.

73. (previously added) The article of claim 66 wherein the hard component and soft component are thermoplastic.

74. (previously added) The article of claim 23 wherein the printable polymeric layer comprises: at least one first polymer having an elongation up to about 150% and at least one second polymer having an elongation ranging from about 200% to about 600%.

75. (previously added) The article of claim 74 wherein the Shore D Hardness of the first polymer is at least about 40.

76. (previously added) The article of claim 74 wherein the first polymer comprises a polymer selected from the group consisting of a first polyurethane polymer, an acrylic polymer, and mixtures thereof.

77. (previously added) The article of claim 74 wherein the second polymer comprises a second polyurethane polymer.

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79. (previously added) The article of claim 23 wherein said layer exhibits enhanced surface slip.

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a layer comprising a composition comprising:

80. (currently amended) An article comprising a flexible film substrate and a printable polymeric layer comprising the reaction product of:

- a hard component having functionality selected from the group consisting of a first polyurethane polymer, an acrylic polymer, a polymeric polyol and mixtures thereof; and
- a soft component having functionality selected from the group consisting of a second polyurethane polymer, a polymeric polyol, and mixtures thereof;

wherein the polymeric layer is soluble in at least one solvent comprising acetone, methyl ethyl ketone, methyl isobutyl ketone, cyclohexanone, propylene glycol methyl ether acetate, ethyl acetate, propylene glycol methyl ether and mixtures thereof; and wherein the polymeric layer is flexible and stain resistant.

81. (currently amended) An article comprising a flexible film substrate and a printable polymeric layer comprising:

- at least one first polymer having an elongation up to about 150%; and
- at least one second polymer having an elongation ranging from about 200% to about 600%;

wherein the polymeric layer is soluble in at least one solvent comprising acetone, methyl ethyl ketone, methyl isobutyl ketone, cyclohexanone, propylene glycol methyl ether acetate, ethyl acetate, propylene glycol methyl ether and mixtures thereof; and wherein said polymeric layer is flexible and stain resistant.

82. (previously added) The article of claim 81 wherein the first polymer is selected from the group consisting of a first polyurethane polymer, an acrylic polymer, and mixtures thereof.

83. (previously added) The article of claim 81 wherein the second polymer comprises a second

84. (new) Retroreflective sheeting comprising a printable polymeric layer, wherein said polymeric layer is soluble in at least one solvent comprising methyl ethyl ketone, methyl isobutyl

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ketone, cyclohexanone, propylene glycol methyl ether acetate, ethyl acetate, propylene glycol methyl ether and mixtures thereof; and wherein said polymeric layer is flexible and stain resistant.

85. (new) Retroreflective sheeting comprising a printable polymeric layer comprising the reaction product of:

- a hard component having functionality selected from the group consisting of a first polyurethane polymer, an acrylic polymer, a polymeric polyol and mixtures thereof; and
- a soft component having functionality selected from the group consisting of a second polyurethane polymer, a polymeric polyol, and mixtures thereof;

wherein the polymeric layer is soluble in at least one solvent comprising acetone, methyl ethyl ketone, methyl isobutyl ketone, cyclohexanone, propylene glycol methyl ether acetate, ethyl acetate, propylene glycol methyl ether and mixtures thereof; and wherein the polymeric layer is flexible and stain resistant.

86. (new) Retroreflective sheeting comprising a printable polymeric layer comprising:

- at least one first polymer having an elongation up to about 150%; and
- at least one second polymer having an elongation ranging from about 200% to about 600%;

wherein the polymeric layer is soluble in at least one solvent comprising acetone, methyl ethyl ketone, methyl isobutyl ketone, cyclohexanone, propylene glycol methyl ether acetate, ethyl acetate, propylene glycol methyl ether and mixtures thereof; and wherein said polymeric layer is flexible and stain resistant.